

REMARKS

The rejection of Claims 7-12 under 35 USC §112, ¶2 is traversed, and reconsideration is respectfully requested.

The general assertion that the claims are “narrative and indefinite, failing to conform with current U.S. practice” is not a sufficient case for establishing that one of ordinary skill in the art would not reasonably discern the metes and bounds of the claimed invention. Claim language is entitled to a variety of breadth as courts decisions have long recognized. Although applicants have “cleaned up” minor antecedent issues in the foregoing amendments, these issues too are not sufficient to raise a section 112 issue. Applicants have addressed any other points raised in the Office Action with regard to particularity and definiteness, but welcome any further comments and/or suggestions touching on the merits of the definiteness of claim language.

The rejection of Claims 7-12 as being anticipated by Shen et al under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) is traversed, and reconsideration is respectfully requested.

In the Shen et al. injector, a fuel-turn member is provided upstream of the valve seat in an arrangement so that the orifice is not parallel with the injection valve axis. Therefore, although this arrangement may form alternating rich-and-lean distribution of fuel along the circumference of said fuel injection holes, there no concrete teaching of how to determine the dimension up to the injection hole at the tip. Thus, it does not enable how a rich region in the alternating rich-

and-lean fuel distribution is positioned so that the rich region may match with the obtuse angle side of the axis line of the non-parallel orifice.

Moreover, the Shen et al. patent does not teach or even suggest a method for adjusting the penetration of sprayed fuel such that the adjustment of penetration of injected fuel is performed using a behavior of the sprayed fuel. Thereby, in the present invention, when the length of flow passage of the orifice is changed by cutting of the surface on the side of the fuel injection hole, at least one of the position where the fuel spray is concentrated and the position where the penetration length of fuel spray is the longest shifts in a circumferential direction compared with the position before the length of the flow passage is changed when the fuel is injected under the atmospheric pressure.

An early and favorable action on the merits is now earnestly solicited.

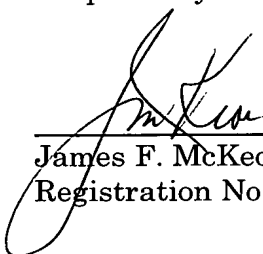
If there are any questions regarding this amendment or the application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated since this should expedite the prosecution of the application for all concerned.

If necessary to effect a timely response, this paper should be considered as a petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response, and please charge any deficiency in fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit

Account No. 05-1323 (Docket # 056207.52747US).

Respectfully submitted,

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James F. McKeown
Registration No. 25,406

CROWELL & MORING, LLP
P.O. Box 14300
Washington, DC 20044-4300
Telephone No.: (202) 624-2500
Facsimile No.: (202) 628-8844

JFM/dg